仮UQ HOLDER!

ユーキューホルダー!

KC
KODANSHA
COMICS

CHAPTER 137

KEN AKAMATSU

UQ HOLDER!
WHO
ARE YOU?
WHA ...
AN OLD MAN ...?

STAGE 137: THE DECISION MADE THAT DAY

OHH...
YOU'RE AN UNFAMILIAR FACE...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AT THIS WORK-SHOP?
UH...
OOHH...
SNIFF
?!
YES, SUCH A FRAGRANT AND REFRESHING ...
OHO... MM-HM...
?
...!
MRK...? WELL, WELL ...
SNIFF

THWAM
HE'S FAST!
WHA...
AAH.
THIS IS A FINE ARTICLE.
SHH
?!
BAH
HUH?
I FEEL A DRAFT...

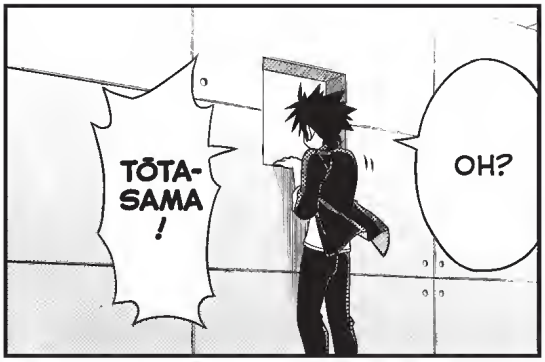
GYAAAAAHH! MY PANTIES ?!
I WOULD SIMPLY LOVE TO ADD IT TO MY COLLECTION ♪
BAM
HUH ...?
GYAAAAAHH! HE'S A PERVERT! A TOTAL CREEPER!
WOULD YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT HIM?!
THE MAGNIFICENTLY PURE SCENT OF A MAIDEN IN LOVE...
AND WITHOUT QUESTION THESE WERE WORN IN THE HOPES OF GETTING LUCKY.
WHOA! WATCH IT!
PASH
SWOOSH
SWOOSH
HNGH!
CLAMP
BWOH
OHO? ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FIGHT, MY BOY?
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IN MATTERS OF UNDERGARMENTS, MY POWERS ARE...
?!
UH... KILL HIM?
TURN HIM TO MINCEMEAT!!
JUST KILL HIM ALREADY!
JUST GET THEM BACK!

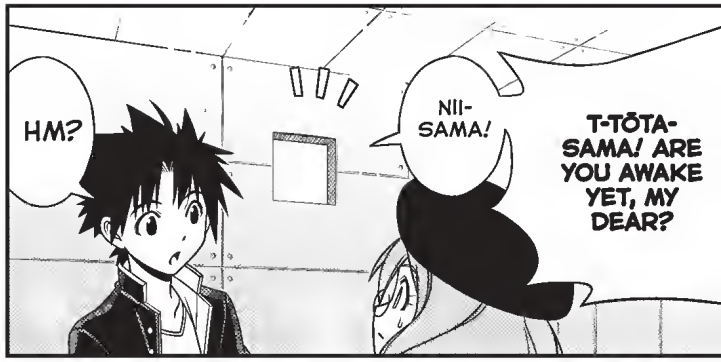
ふわっ
FWAH
TMP
!!
HE... HE'S TOUGH!
BA-SHING
SNAP
HRGAH ?!
くるん
WHIRL
HNGH !
THMP
MRK.

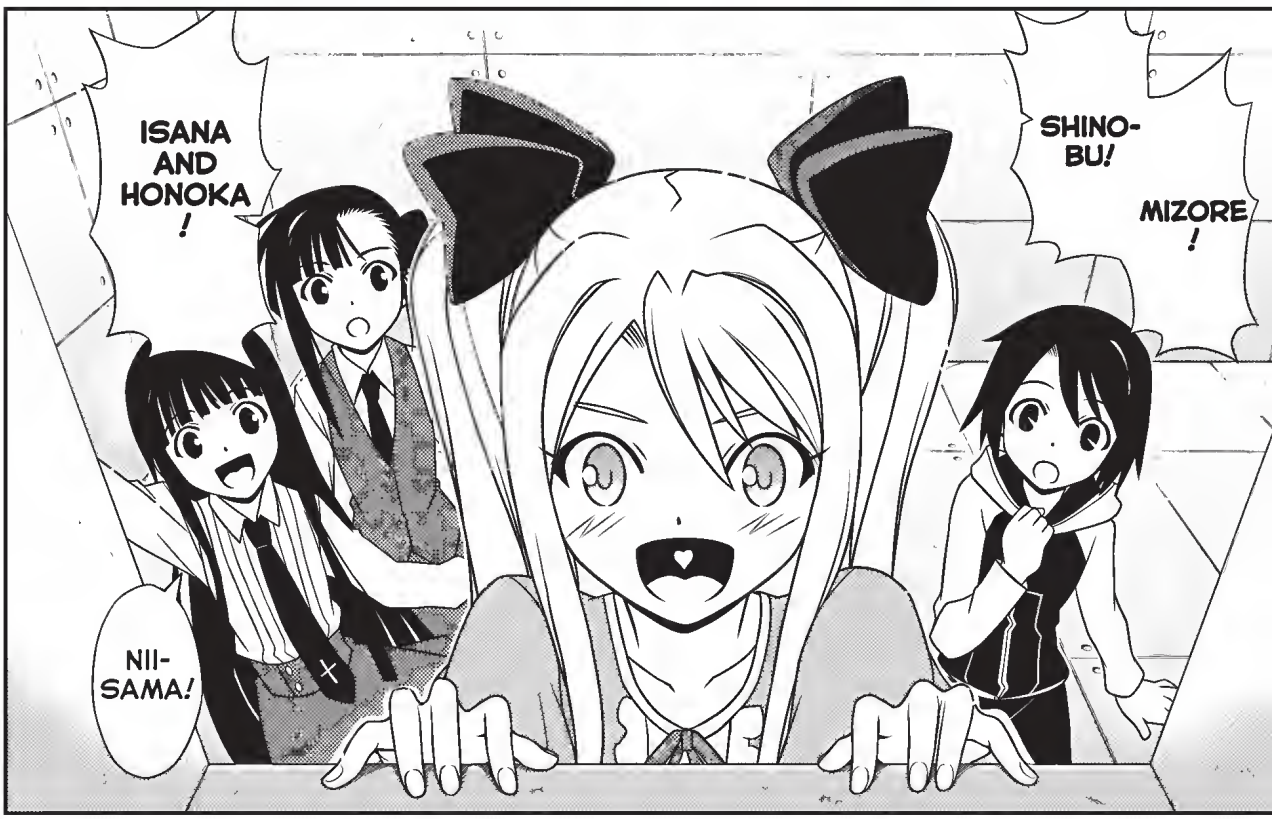
CHOP
T-TŌTA ?!
しゅうう...
FSHH...
MEEP.
SPLAT
べちゃ..
THUD
HM ...?
THIS BOY...
KIRIË.
MM...
KIRIË.
PANTIES... MY PANT...
NNNNGH.

UH...? HUH?
WHERE ARE WE?
NAGI SPRING-FIELD'S... TŌTA KONOE'S GREAT GRAND-FATHER'S WORKSHOP.
IN THE BASE-MENT.
NNNGH ...
BAH
BAH
GASP!
AM I STILL DREAM-ING?
HUH? BUT KARIN-CHAN...AND ALL OF YOU. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE GOT WORRIED ABOUT LEAVING IT TO THE TWO OF YOU, SO WE FOLLOWED YOU.
TŌTA-KUN.
WHERE ARE WE?
MY...MY PANTIES ARE GONE! SO, UMM, THAT WAS REAL AND... HUH? WH-WHAT ABOUT YESTERDAY?

THWAM
WHY ARE YOU BLUSHING, KURŌ-MARU?
OH, NO REASON...
KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT, IKKŪ.
FOR REAL?
AND MADE A SPECTACULAR SHOW OF STEALING THE GIRLS' UNDERWEAR.
WE WANTED TO GET HERE BEFORE YOU, TO MAKE SURE IT WAS SAFE,
BUT THAT OLD MAN GOT THE BETTER OF US.
SERIOUSLY?
THAT ASIDE, THIS ROOM IS EXTREMELY SECURE. I DOUBT IT WILL BE EASY TO GET OUT, EVEN FOR US.
FROM THE SECOND HE TOOK PEOPLE'S UNDERWEAR, HE WAS 100% GUILTY!!
HE'S KIND OF A PERV, BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BAD GUY...
WE DON'T KNOW.
BUT WHO *IS* THAT OLD GUY?
YIKES. WHAT DO WE DO?
PRETEND WE'RE DEAD TO TRICK THE GUARD?
ON TOP OF THAT, THEY'VE GOT A PERFECT ELECTROMAGNETIC DEFENSE, TOO, SO I CAN'T SEND FOR SPARE EQUIPMENT.
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH AN ADVANCED SETUP ON EARTH BEFORE. IT MUST BE FROM INVERSE MARS.
THERE'S A POWERFUL MAGIC CIRCLE OVER THE WHOLE ROOM THAT'S SUPPRESSING CHI ENERGY AND MAGIC POWER.
SANTA'S TOO, OF COURSE


TŌTA-SAMA!
OH?


HM?
NII-SAMA!
T-TŌTA-SAMA! ARE YOU AWAKE YET, MY DEAR?


ISANA AND HONOKA!
SHINO-BU!
MIZORE!
NII-SAMA!

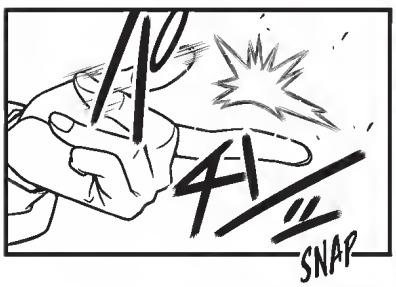
OF COURSE, EVENTUALLY A BIG BATTLE BROKE OUT BETWEEN THE "WE SHOULD STOP LOOKING" FACTION, THE "WE MUST SEE IT THROUGH TO THE END" FACTION, AND THE "WE SHOULD BREAK THIS UP" FACTION, SO THE SPYING KINDA FIZZLED OUT AT THE END.
WE BOOKED A BIG ROOM IN THE CHEAP INN ACROSS THE WAY.
IT WAS FUN LIKE A CLASS TRIP.
HEH HEH HEH. DON'T BE SILLY, I WOULD NEVER DO SOMETHING SO CHILDISH.
DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE ALL IN THE NEXT ROOM SPYING ON US LAST NIGHT?
WAAH
WAAH
YOU GUYS...

SERIOUSLY? DID YOU HAVE TO BRING THE WHOLE GANG?

GULP
KARIN-CHAN...? DON'T TELL ME...

WHA...
DID YOU GO ALL THE WAY?
WHAT ?
SO HOW DID IT TURN OUT?
YOU WON'T FOOL US. AFTER WHAT WE SAW, YOU CAN'T HONESTLY SAY NOTHING HAPPENED.
HOW FAR DID YOU GO?
TH-TH-TH-TH-TH-THERE'S N-N-N-N-NOTHING TO TELL, REALLY...
HOW WAS IT?
WELL ?
YOU DID, EH?
SO YOU DID.
FLAIL
FLAIL
FLAIL
W-W-W-W-W-WE DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE, UGH!!
AND YOU IN THERE! DON'T GO ACCEPTING THEIR STORIES!
SEMPAI... HE'S A MAN NOW...
OH NO! NII-SAMA IS GROWING UP.
GRR... TO THINK SHE WOULD BEAT ME TO HIM...
ずーーーん
GLOOOOM
I SEE. MAYBE I SHOULD FIND SOMEONE.
THERE'S NO NEED TO DENY IT ANYMORE, KIRIË.
NO, I'M TELLING YOU NOTHING HAPPENED, OKAY!
LISTEN TO WHAT I'M TELLING YOU!
MM-MM-MM
RAR
RAR
ギャア ギャア

DON'T TRY AND LAUGH IT OFF! YOU'RE MAKING IT WORSE, MR. INCOMPETENT!
HEY !!
HE'S LAUGHING.
OH, WELL... AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA.
TO-T-T-T-TŌTA-KUN, BE HONEST WITH US. MAN TO MAN...
WHA-WH-WH-WHAT DID HAPPEN, NII-CHAN?

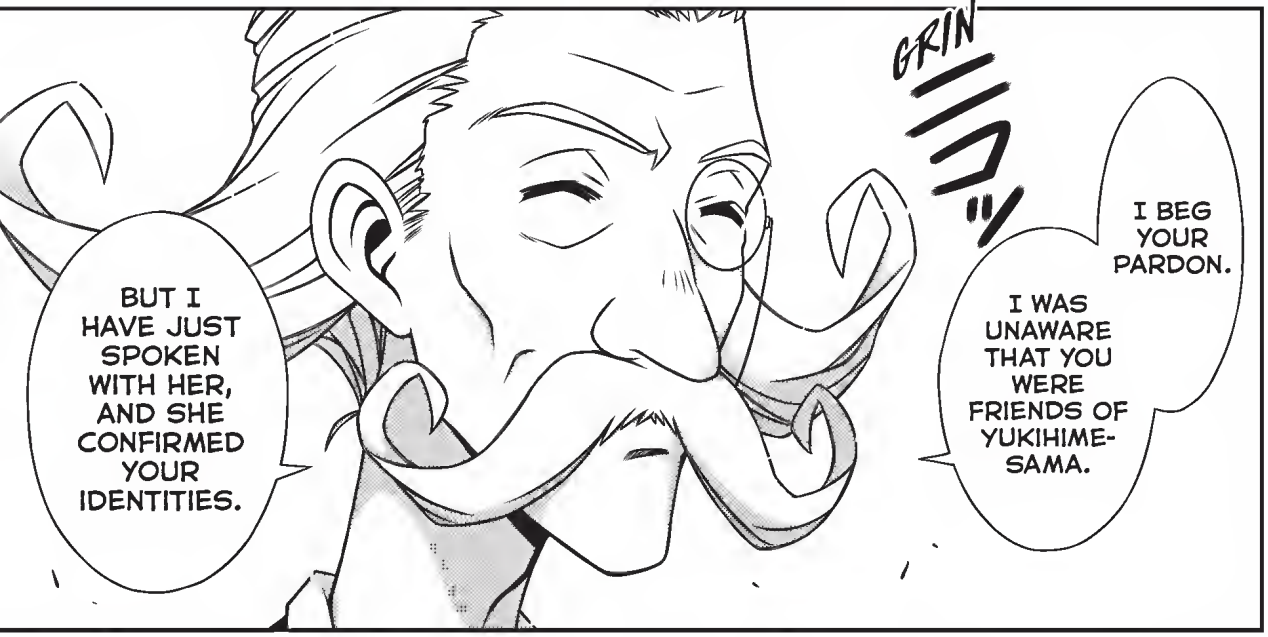

SNAP

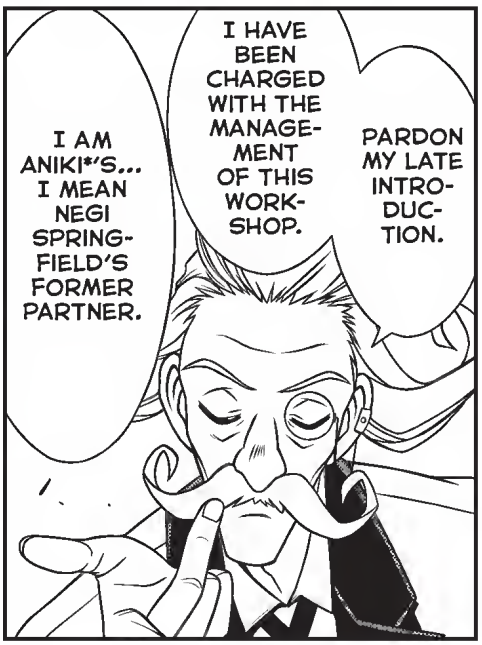
I'M GOING TO TELL EVERYONE HOW EMBARRASSINGLY IGNORANT YOU ARE!
HUH? NO, KIRIË, THAT'S...
WHAT...? REALLY?
IS THAT TRUE ?!
CLAMOR
CLAMOR
RAR
RAR
HUH...? REALLY? NOTHING HAPPENED?
AND YOU, INCOMPETENT!
ANYWAY! NOTHING HAPPENED!

BA-
SHAAA

...

YOU!
MRK ...

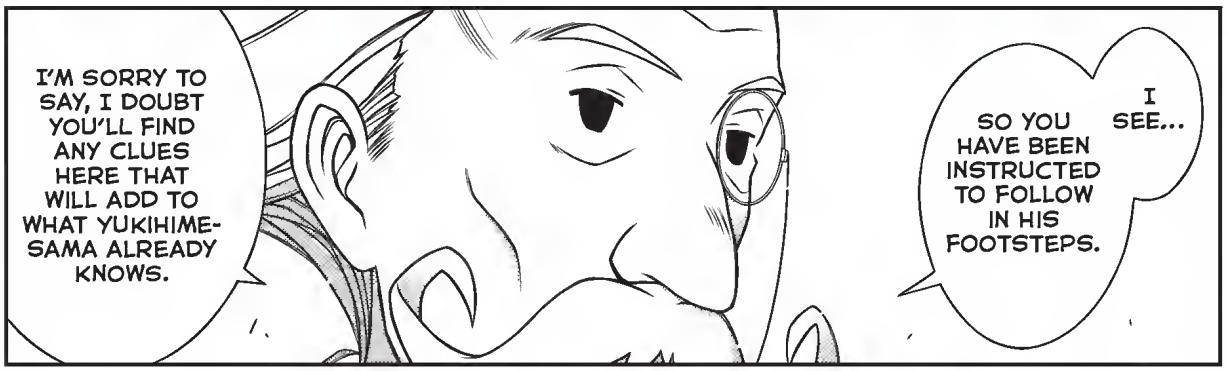




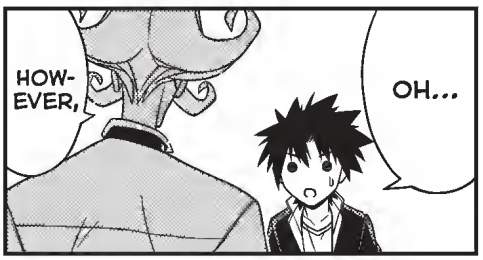
*Sort of a gangster term for someone you respect like a brother.

YUP!
YOU MIGHT SAY I WAS HIS PARTNER, HIS MANAGER, AND HIS BEST PAL.
GRAND-PA'S PARTNER ...?
WHEN I TAKE THIS FORM, IT TAKES ME BACK TO THE GOOD OLD DAYS. CAN'T HELP SLIPPING BACK INTO MY OLD SPEECH PATTERN.
OOPS. SORRY 'BOUT THAT.
I HAVE ELECTED TO TAKE THIS FORM SPEND MY REMAINING YEARS IN QUIETUDE.
POOF
WITH ANIKI AND ZERO GONE,
SNAP

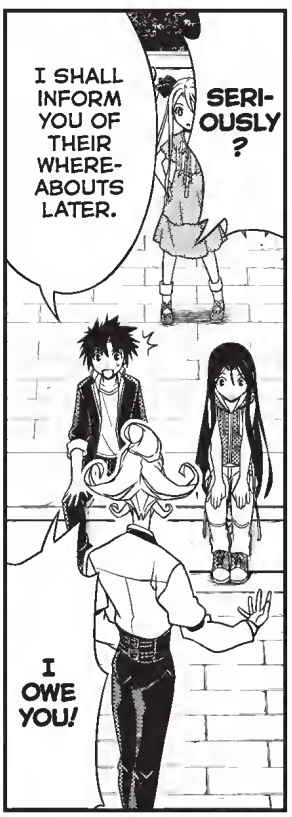
ABOUT GRANDPA.
SO CHAMO-SAN.

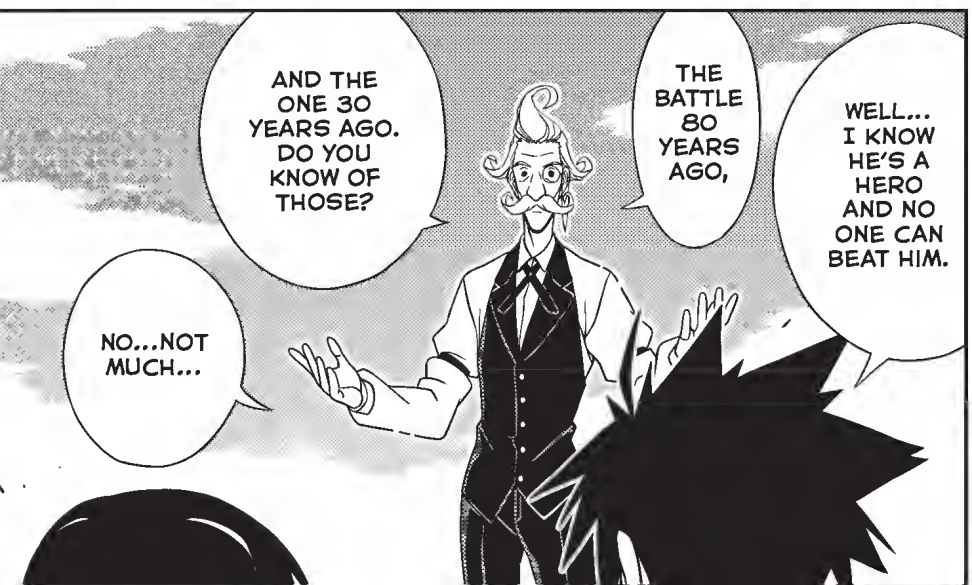

I'M SORRY TO SAY, I DOUBT YOU'LL FIND ANY CLUES HERE THAT WILL ADD TO WHAT YUKIHIME-SAMA ALREADY KNOWS.
I SEE... SO YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS.

I MYSELF COULD DIRECT YOU TO THEM.
THERE ARE A FEW MORE SECRET WORKSHOPS OF HIS OF WHICH YUKIHIME-SAMA IS UNAWARE.


HOW-EVER,
OH...

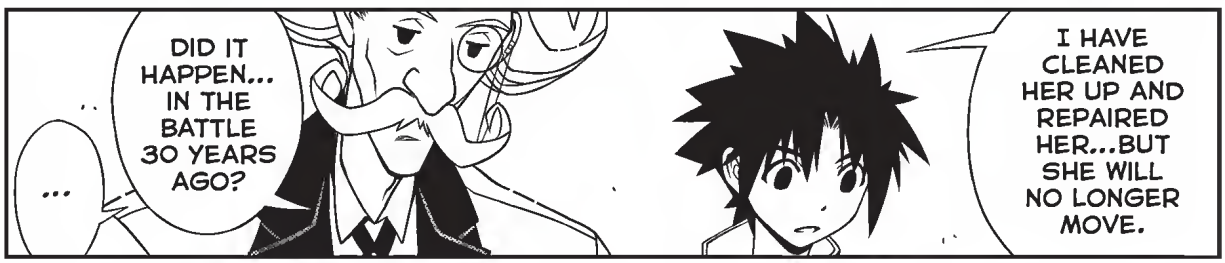
MIGHT I ASK HOW MUCH YOU KNOW ABOUT NEGI?
INCIDEN-TALLY,


I SHALL INFORM YOU OF THEIR WHERE-ABOUTS LATER.
SERI-OUSLY ?
I OWE YOU!

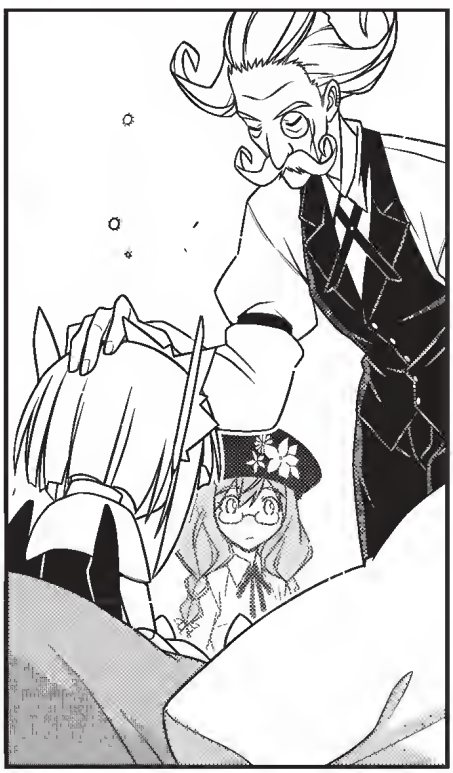

AND THE ONE 30 YEARS AGO. DO YOU KNOW OF THOSE?
THE BATTLE 80 YEARS AGO,
WELL... I KNOW HE'S A HERO AND NO ONE CAN BEAT HIM.
NO...NOT MUCH...

I, TOO... ENJOY REGALING OTHERS WITH STORIES OF HIS EXPLOITS.
THEN HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR THE TALE, TO TAKE WITH YOU AS A MEMENTO OF THIS MEETING?
RUMBLE RUMBLE ゴゴゴゴ
THAT'S GREAT, BUT FIRST.
SHUDDER ぞくっ
RUMBLE ゴゴゴ
RUMBLE ゴゴ
YEAH! I'D LOVE TO HEAR THOSE STORIES!
WHAT?
WELL, YOU SEE, I'VE PLACED THEM IN MY SPECIAL SAFE THAT CAN WITHSTAND AN ATTACK FROM EVA HERSELF, SO IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TAKE THEM OUT FOR AT LEAST ONE WEEK...
WHAT?
IT'S TOO LATE—I ALREADY PUT THEM IN MY COLLECTION!
RAR キャト RAR キャト
MY PANTIES!
WOULD YOU DO US THE FAVOR OF RETURNING OUR UNDERWEAR?
YES.
AND THIS IS...?

CHACHAZERO.
THIS IS THE DOLL WHO ONCE SERVED AS YUKIHIME-SAMA'S PARTNER.


...
DID IT HAPPEN... IN THE BATTLE 30 YEARS AGO?
I HAVE CLEANED HER UP AND REPAIRED HER...BUT SHE WILL NO LONGER MOVE.

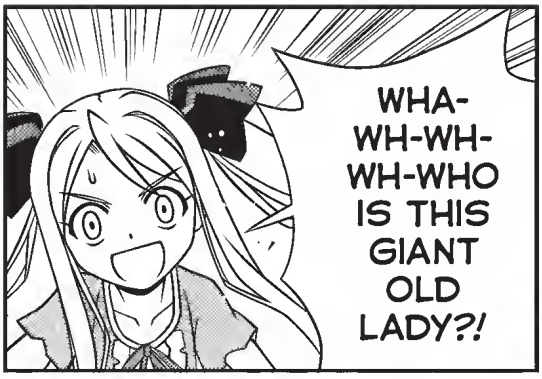
OH, HA HA HA.
HM ?!
SHE MEANT A LOT TO YOU, DIDN'T SHE?



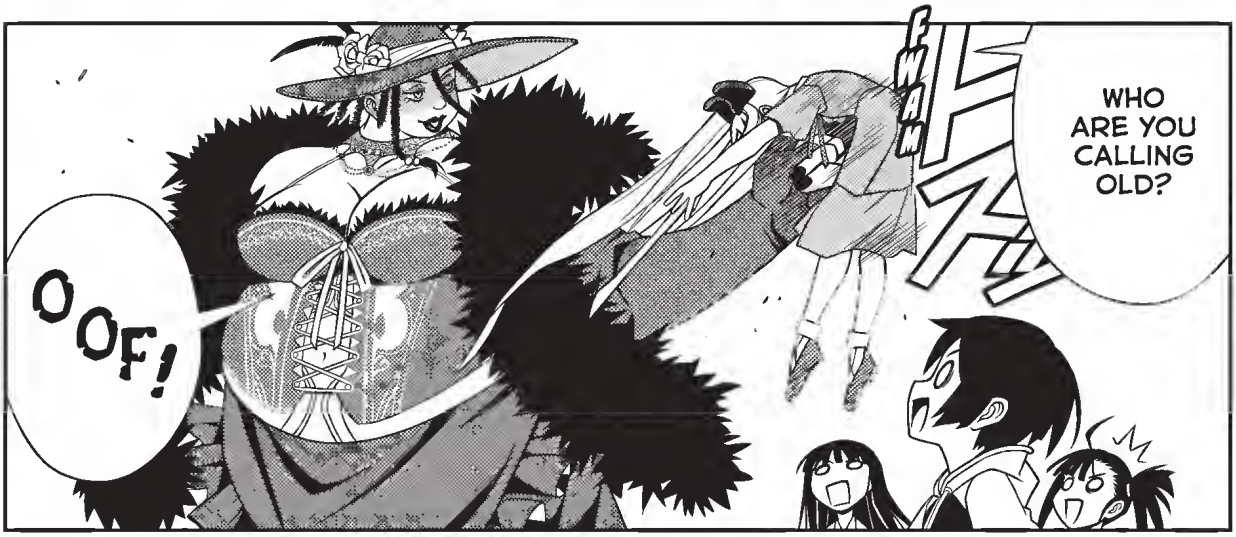
TOGETHER, SHE AND I...
A VIDEO OF NEGI AND HIS FRIENDS' HEROICS HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN HER EYES.

キテ
KREEE
FLIK
カタ
カタ
FLIK
カタ
FLIK
...WILL TELL YOU HIS TALE.
CLICK
カチッ
JUST A DARN MINUTE.
?!
CLAMP
ZHOOM
ズウウ
ZWOOO
ウウ
GLARE
!

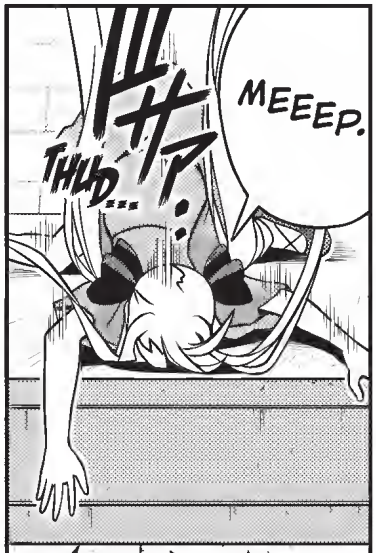
ZA-SHAM
ZWOOOO
WAAH ?!
ZWOOOM
M...
MASTER ?!
OOHHH
TŌTA.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.


WHA-WH-WH-WH-WHO IS THIS GIANT OLD LADY?!

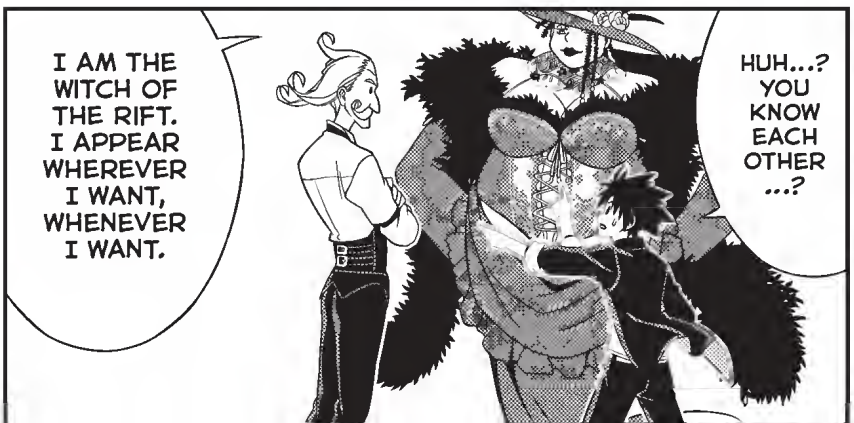
WH-WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
M-MASTER ...!


OOF!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING OLD?
ドスッ
FWAM

I USED THE BACK OF MY BLADE. SHE'S NOT DEAD.
SHE-SH-SH-SH-SHE KILLED...


MEEEP.
THUD...
サア

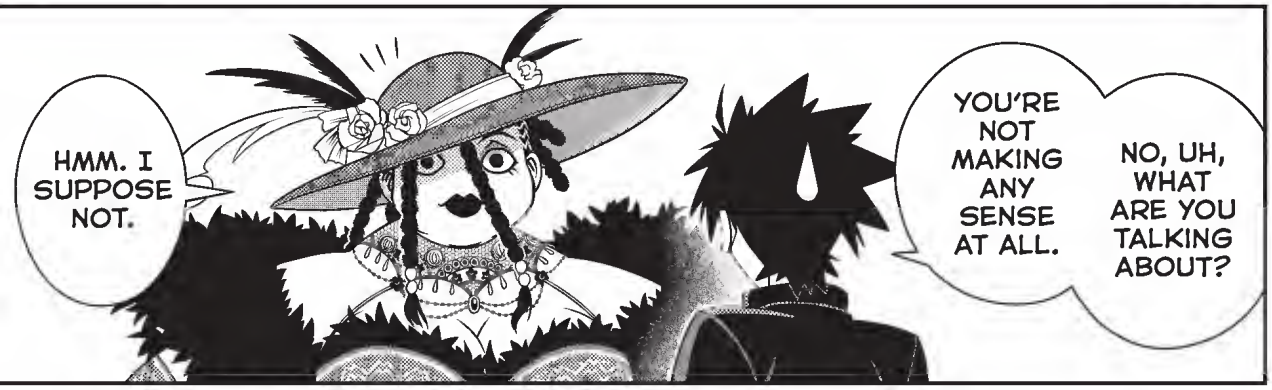
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE MORTAL REALM?
DANA-SAMA... DANA ANANGA JAGANNATHA-SAMA.


I AM THE WITCH OF THE RIFT. I APPEAR WHEREVER I WANT, WHENEVER I WANT.
HUH...? YOU KNOW EACH OTHER ...?

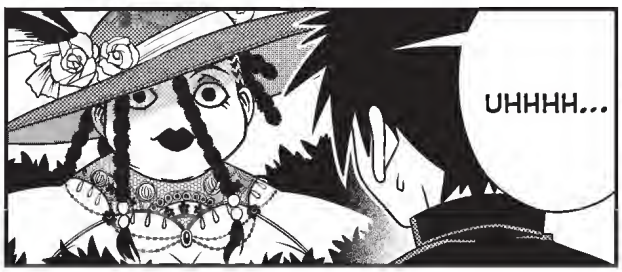
MIZORE ?!

CHAKI
BEFORE THE SCREENING OF HER MEMORIES,
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
IT IS INDEED.
I MEAN... NEGI'S VIDEO LETTER FROM CHAO LINGSHEN—THE ONE SHE SENT FROM THE PARALLEL WORLD? IT WAS ONE OF HIS MOST CLOSELY GUARDED TREASURES.
MRK... IS THAT ANIKI'S—
HUH?
LISTEN, TŌTA. I'VE BEEN ASKED TO SHOW YOU THIS WHEN YOU VISITED NEGI'S WORKSHOP.
NO... UM...
PARAL-LEL... WHAT?
FOR ME, GETTING MY HANDS ON ITEMS THAT NO LONGER EXIST IS CHILD'S PLAY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS LOST WHEN HIS WORKSHOP WAS DESTROYED IN THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE ASTEROID BELT...

!
NEGI SPRING-FIELD.
BY YOUR GRAND-FATHER.
ON THAT VIDEO...
WHAT IN THE...
WHAT ...?
WELL, IT'S BASICALLY LIKE DOING A SPEEDRUN USING CHEAT CODES, SO PERSONALLY, I'M NOT SURE I LIKE IT.
HUH ?
I THINK I'LL USE CHAO'S DIMENSION JUMPER TO TRAVEL DIMENSIONS AND FIND AN
...IS THE TALE OF A WORLD ON A DIFFERENT TIME AXIS FROM OURS...A SEPARATE WORLD LINE*. IT IS THE RECORD OF A PARALLEL WORLD.
THE... HAPPY ENDING ROUTE... SO TO SPEAK.
HA HA HA
SQUEE キャー
SQUEE
*The path particles take in 4-dimensional spacetime as explained in the theory of relativity, etc.

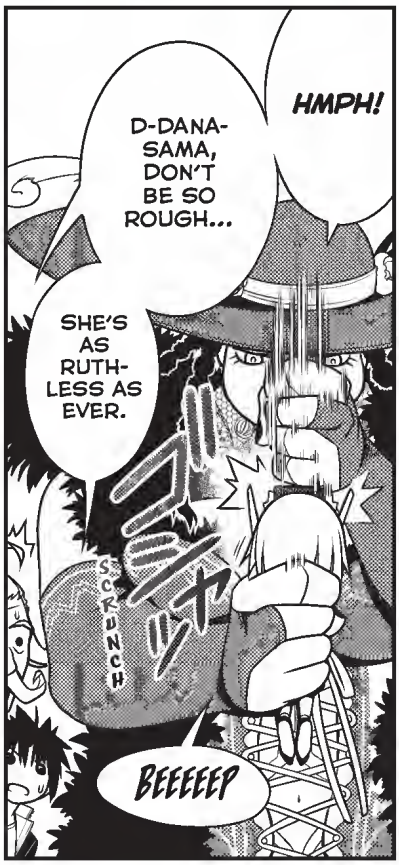

HMM. I SUPPOSE NOT.
YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE AT ALL.
NO, UH, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

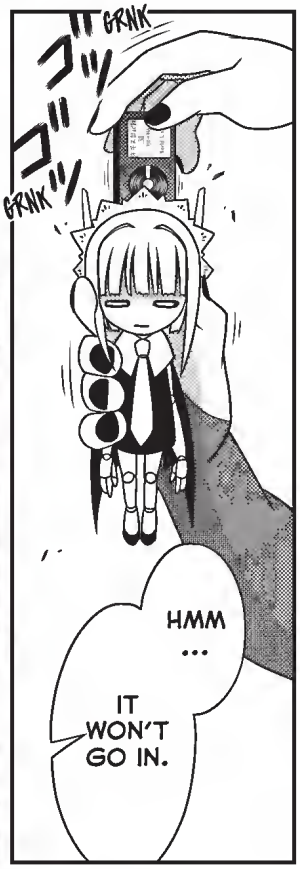
HEY.
...NO USE. IT'S TOO MUCH EFFORT TO EXPLAIN.


UHHHH...

HEY!
CLAMP
MRMP
I'LL BE BORROWING HER TO PLAY THE VIDEO.
IT WILL BE FASTER TO SHOW YOU.

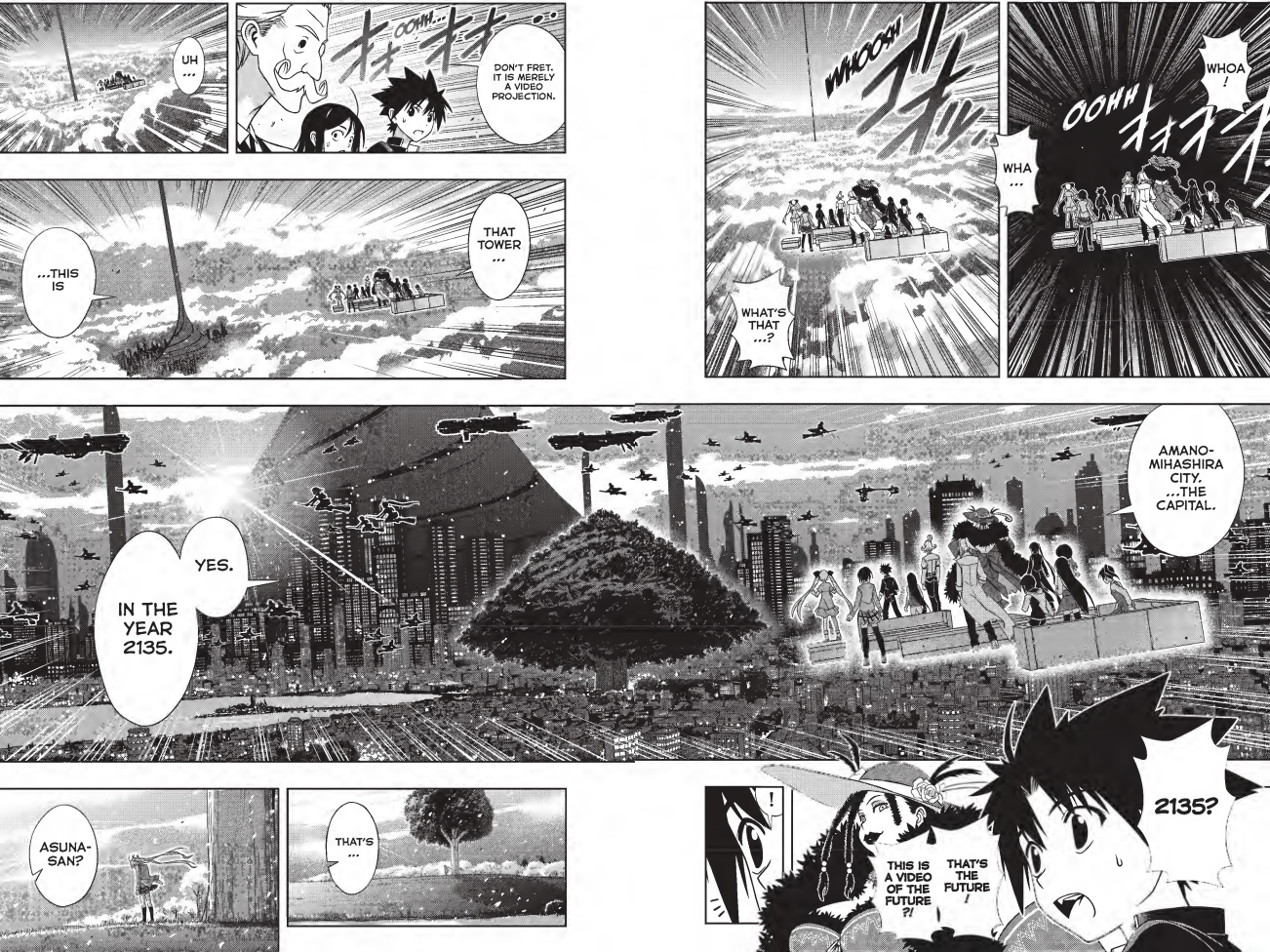
FLIK
FLIK
FLIK
WHOMP


HMPH!
D-DANA-SAMA, DON'T BE SO ROUGH...
SHE'S AS RUTH-LESS AS EVER.
SCRUNCH
BEEEEEP


GRNK
GRNK
HMM...
IT WON'T GO IN.

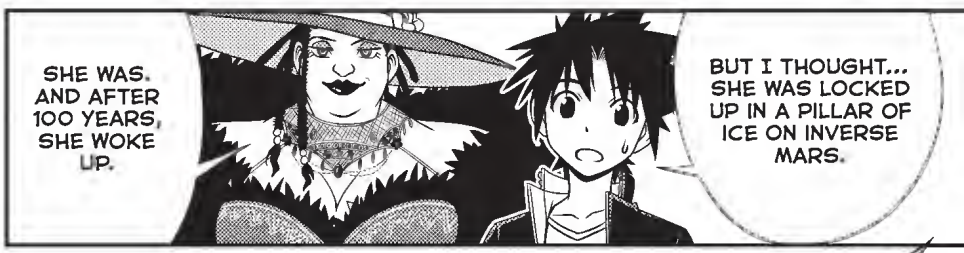
KREEE

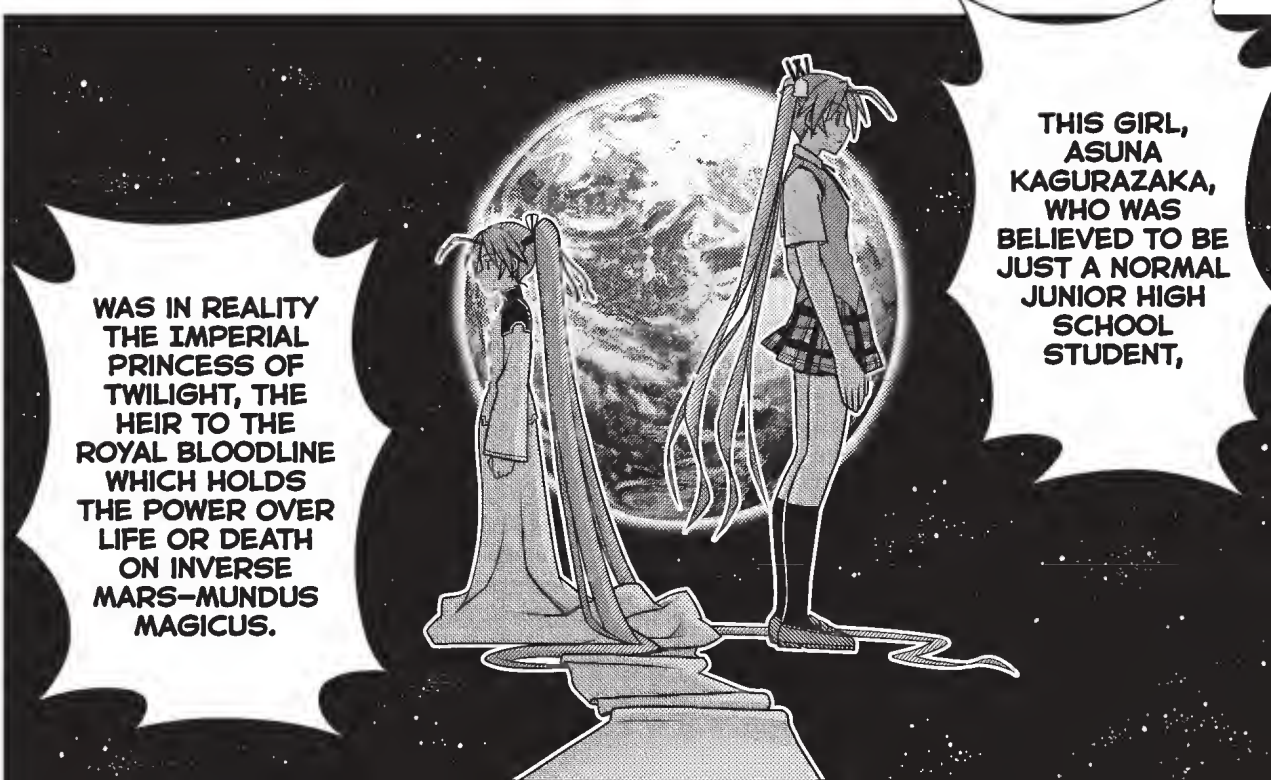
OOHH
?!

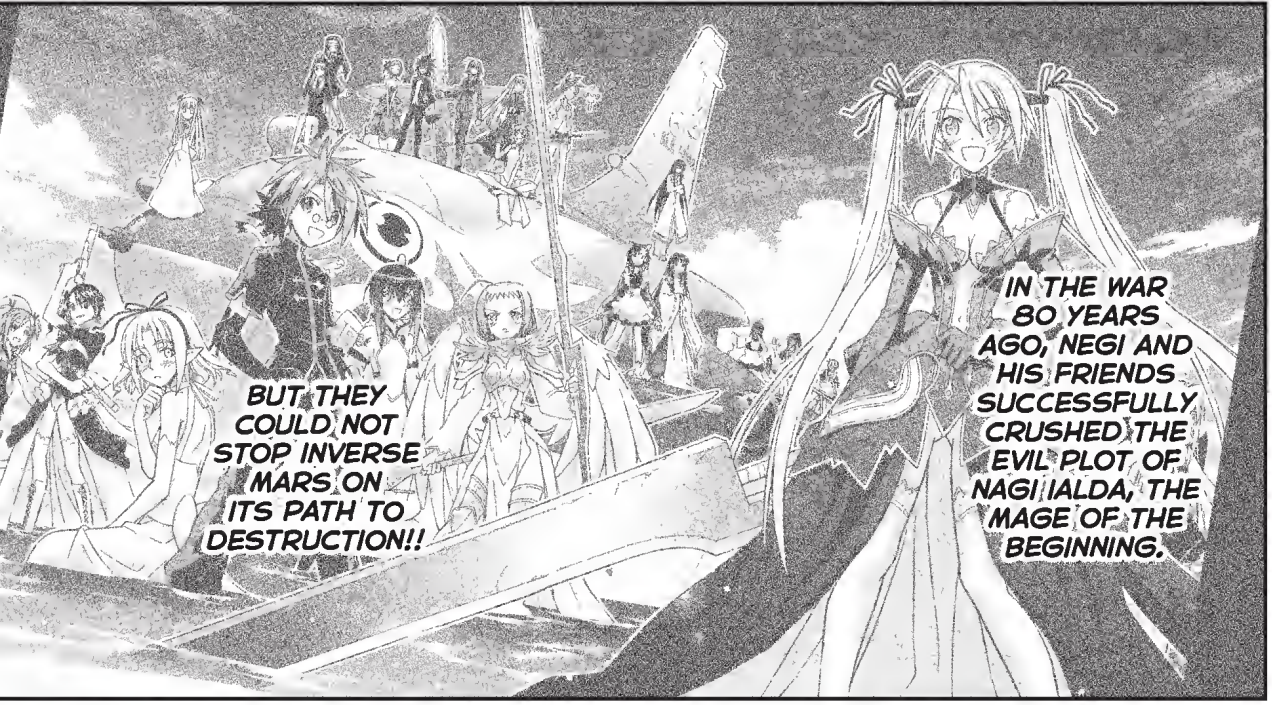

UH ...
OOHH...
DON'T FRET. IT IS MERELY A VIDEO PROJECTION.
...THIS IS
THAT TOWER ...
WHOOSH!
WHAT'S THAT ...?
WHA ...
OOHH
WHOA!
YES.
IN THE YEAR 2135.
AMANO-MIHASHIRA CITY. ...THE CAPITAL.
ASUNA-SAN?
THAT'S ...
!
THIS IS A VIDEO OF THE FUTURE?!
THAT'S THE FUTURE!
2135?

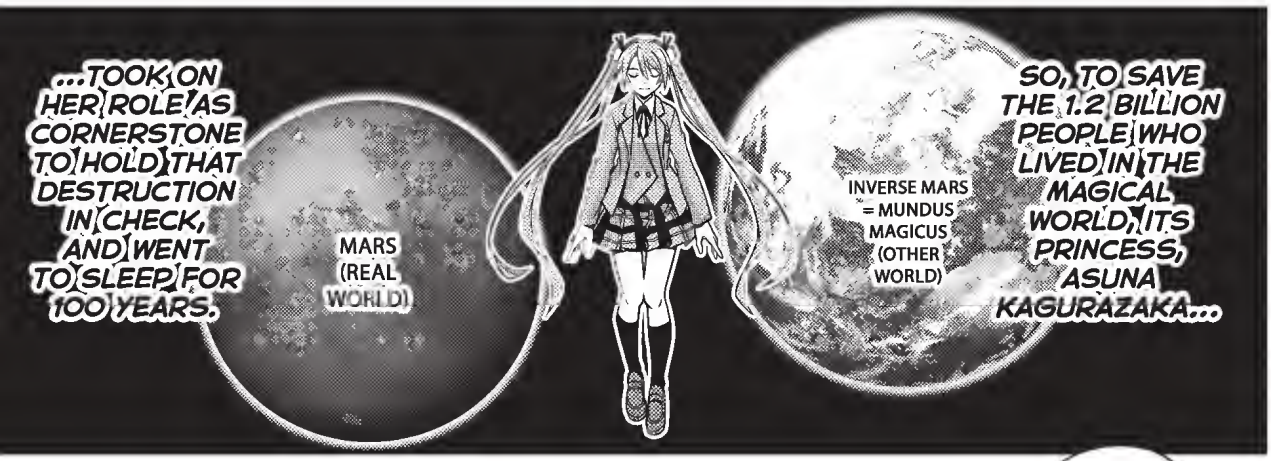
UH ...?
SHE'S CRYING?

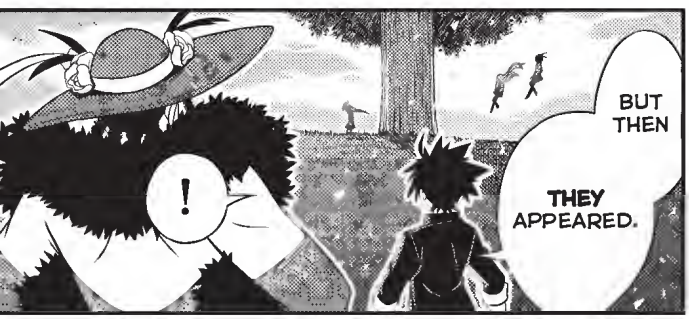
YES.
100 YEARS?

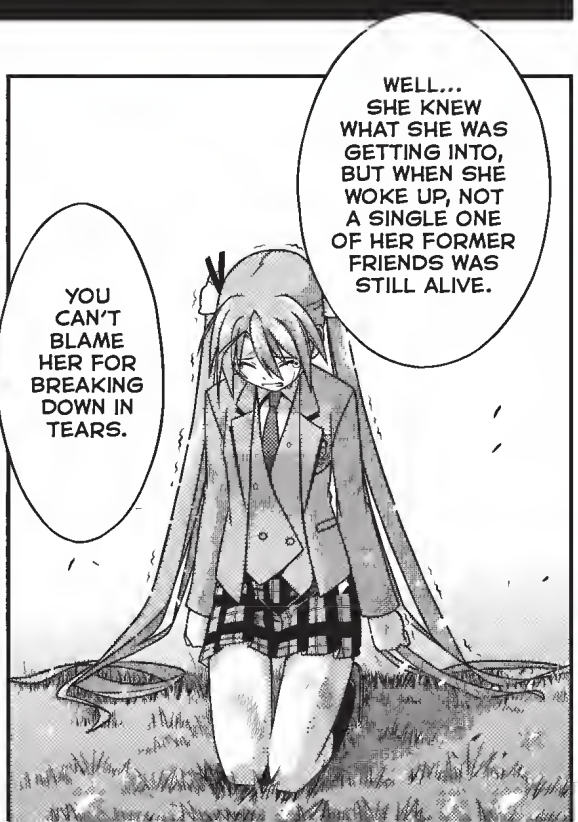

SHE WAS. AND AFTER 100 YEARS, SHE WOKE UP.
BUT I THOUGHT... SHE WAS LOCKED UP IN A PILLAR OF ICE ON INVERSE MARS.

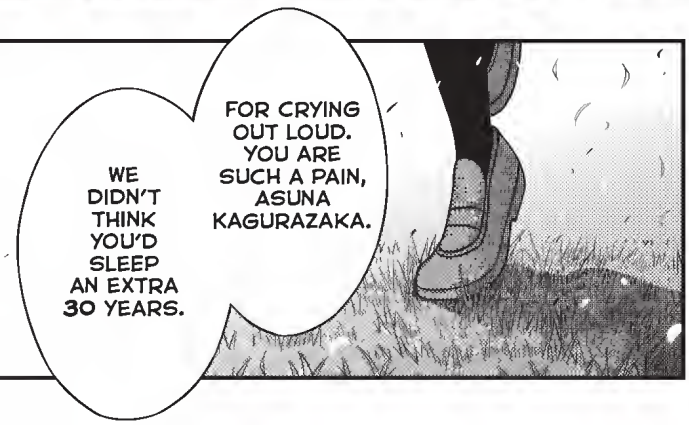

THIS GIRL, ASUNA KAGURAZAKA, WHO WAS BELIEVED TO BE JUST A NORMAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT,
WAS IN REALITY THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS OF TWILIGHT, THE HEIR TO THE ROYAL BLOODLINE WHICH HOLDS THE POWER OVER LIFE OR DEATH ON INVERSE MARS—MUNDUS MAGICUS.


IN THE WAR 80 YEARS AGO, NEGI AND HIS FRIENDS SUCCESSFULLY CRUSHED THE EVIL PLOT OF NAGI IALDA, THE MAGE OF THE BEGINNING.
BUT THEY COULD NOT STOP INVERSE MARS ON ITS PATH TO DESTRUCTION!!


SO, TO SAVE THE 1.2 BILLION PEOPLE WHO LIVED IN THE MAGICAL WORLD, ITS PRINCESS, ASUNA KAGURAZAKA...
INVERSE MARS = MUNDUS MAGICUS (OTHER WORLD)
MARS (REAL WORLD)
...TOOK ON HER ROLE AS CORNERSTONE TO HOLD THAT DESTRUCTION IN CHECK, AND WENT TO SLEEP FOR 100 YEARS.

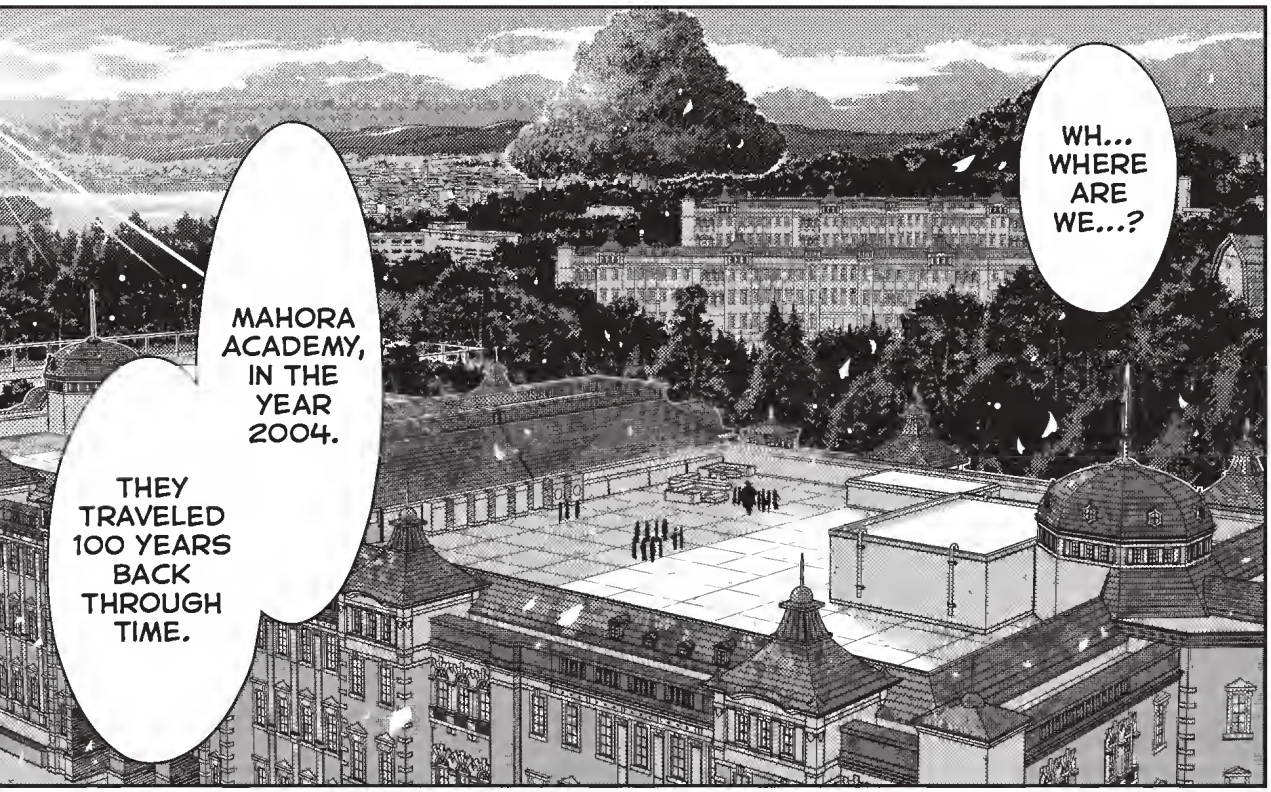

BUT THEN
THEY APPEARED.
!


WELL... SHE KNEW WHAT SHE WAS GETTING INTO, BUT WHEN SHE WOKE UP, NOT A SINGLE ONE OF HER FORMER FRIENDS WAS STILL ALIVE.
YOU CAN'T BLAME HER FOR BREAKING DOWN IN TEARS.

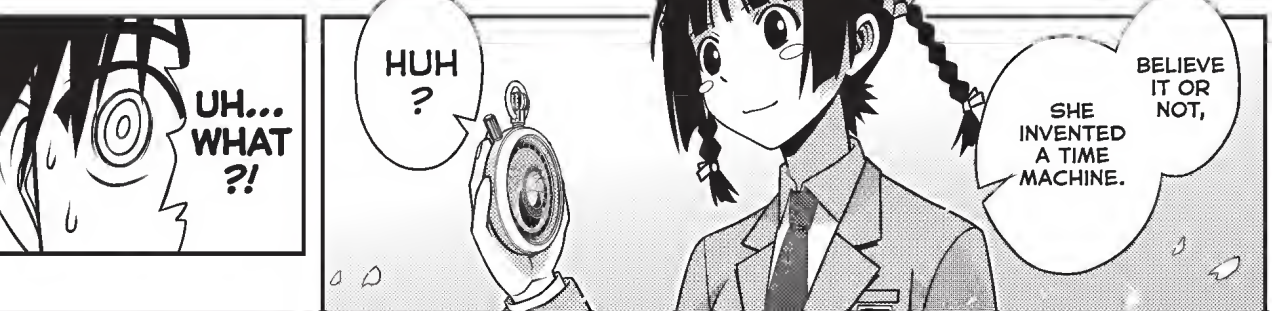

FOR CRYING OUT LOUD. YOU ARE SUCH A PAIN, ASUNA KAGURAZAKA.
WE DIDN'T THINK YOU'D SLEEP AN EXTRA 30 YEARS.

THANKS FOR YOUR 100-YEAR SERVICE!
YOU DID WONDER-FULLY, ASUNA-SAN.
YUKI-HIME ?!
THAT'S...
WHAT'S THAT GADGET...?
WATCH. THIS IS WHERE THEY BREAK THE RULES.
ASUNA KAGURA-ZAKA'S FORMER CLASS-MATES, EVANGELINE AND CHAO LINGSHEN.
WHOA ?
FLASH

HUH ...?
WHA ...


WH... WHERE ARE WE...?
MAHORA ACADEMY, IN THE YEAR 2004.
THEY TRAVELED 100 YEARS BACK THROUGH TIME.

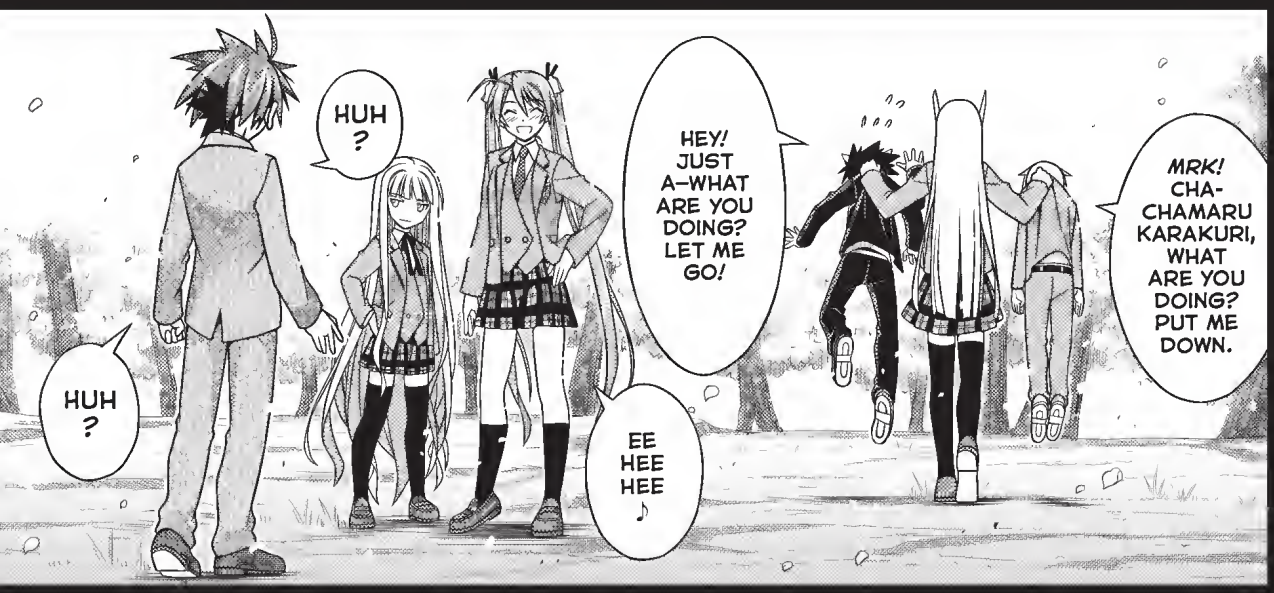
HUH ?
THAT "CHAO" IS A GENIUS.

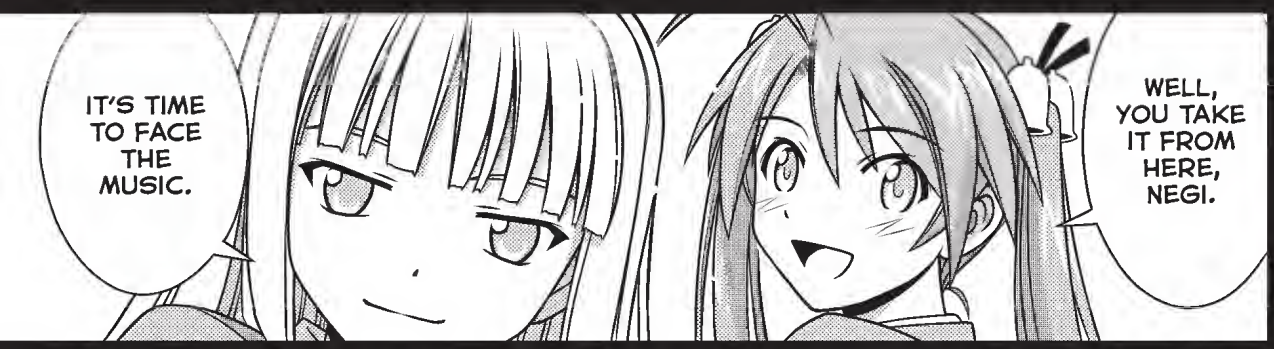

UH... WHAT ?!
HUH ?
SHE INVENTED A TIME MACHINE.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT,

AFTER ASUNA KAGURAZAKA COMPLETED HER 100 YEARS OF SERVICE,
CHAO LINGSHEN AND EVANGELINE USED A TIME MACHINE TO TAKE HER BACK 100 YEARS!!
HUH...? THEN THAT'S HOW...
YES.
THAT'S HOW THEY HAD A PERFECT HAPPY ENDING.
WITH THE EXISTENCE OF THIS TRUMP CARD—ASUNA KAGURAZAKA, THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS OF TWILIGHT—
EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD TURNS OUT JUST RIGHT.

ASUNA KAGURA-ZAKA.
CLASS 3-A, SEAT NUMBER 8.
HEISEI 15
Graduatio
Ceremony
MAHORA ACADEMY
HERE!
THIS WORLD...
OH. I GET IT...
BUZZ
BUZZ
WALLA
WALLA
...DOESN'T NEED ME.
AH HA HA

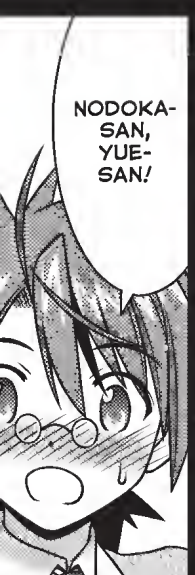
ISHH
ISHH
YOUR RETURN TO US WAS CRUCIAL, ASUNA-SAN.
BY USING THE POWERS OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS OF TWILIGHT,
IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO CALCULATE THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE MAGE OF THE BEGINNING, AND FROM THERE...
WOW. IS ASUNA-NĒCHAN REALLY THAT GREAT?
I SEE YOU KNOW NOTHING, KOTARŌ INUGAMI.
YOU NEVER COME OFF YOUR HIGH HORSE, HUH, FATE?
EVA-CHAN, IT'S ALMOST TIME.
INDEED.
YES.
CHA-CHA-MARU.


HUH ?
HUH ?
HEY! JUST A–WHAT ARE YOU DOING? LET ME GO!
EE HEE HEE ♪
MRK! CHA-CHAMARU KARAKURI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? PUT ME DOWN.


IT'S TIME TO FACE THE MUSIC.
WELL, YOU TAKE IT FROM HERE, NEGI.

THAT'S RIGHT... TODAY IS...
OH...
...!

UMM ...
ISHH...
アア..
RUSTLE


NODOKA-SAN, YUE-SAN!

UH... UMMM...
UHHH... ERRR...
UH... UM... SE-S-S-S-S-SENSEI...
ER... UM... WELL... THAT IS.
TODAY...WAS GRADUATION DAY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I...
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
B-DMP
AND SO... WE'RE HERE TO TELL YOU AGAIN.
UH... UM.
Y-YES!
B-DMP
WINCE

I LOVE YOU, NEGI-SENSEI!
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, PLEASE BE-B-B-B-BE MY BOYFRIEND.
I LOVE YOU, TOO, NEGI-SENSEI!
NOTHING WOULD MAKE ME HAPPIER THAN IF I COULD BE YOUR GIRL-FRIEND...
BUT! I MEAN, UM, I TALKED IT OVER WITH NODOKA.
AND IF YOU DON'T MIND, WE COULD BOTH BE YOUR...GASP! I-I-I'M SORRY. I'M GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF. HOW SILLY OF ME. A-A-A-ANYWAY, UM.
...I ...I LOVE YOU.

Y...
...YES, I KNOW!
HFSHH...
アア
アアア・・
B-DMP
ドキ
I'M VERY FLATTERED.
I DON'T DESERVE IT...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, NODOKA-SAN. YUE-SAN.

I'M IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE!
SO
I'M VERY SORRY!
B-B-B-BUT, UM, I...!
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I DISLIKE EITHER OF YOU! I LIKE YOU VERY MUCH!
I REALLY RESPECT YOU BOTH!

...REALLY MEANS A LOT TO ME, SO...
FOUGHT TOGETHER. AND ALL OF THAT...
WE LEARNED TOGETHER, ADVENTURED TOGETHER.
NODOKA-SAN, YUE-SAN.
WHAT ...?
ギュ・・・
SQUEEZE!!
GRIN...
NODOKA-SAN... YUE-SAN...
SO...
YES... THAT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND.
THANK YOU FOR GIVING US A STRAIGHT ANSWER.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, NEGI-SENSEI.
...

TODAY IS GRADUATION DAY, AFTER ALL.
!
NEGI-SENSEI... NOW IT'S YOUR TURN. GOOD LUCK.
NOD...
I...I NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE!
...NODOKA-SAN... YUE-SAN.
GRADUATION DAY...!
ALL RIGHT!
I'M ON MY WAY!
SIIIIGH...
SIIIII-IGH...
THUD
ZLRR
ZLRR
THMP...
...
YOU CAN DO IT.

HUH? WAIT A SECOND. "I NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE"?
IS GRANDPA ON HIS WAY TO TELL SOMEONE HE LIKES HER?
DON'T TELL ME... IT'S YUKIHIME?!
OH, NO...
AT THIS TIME, ANIKI'S BIG CRUSH WAS...
TMP
!
UH... UM...!
...WHO'S THAT?
TO BE CONTINUED!